

Application No. 09/902,529
Filed: July 10, 2001
TC Art Unit: 3724
Confirmation No.: 6863

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PERFORATING A
NON-WOVEN SHEET**

To produce at least one perforation in a non-woven sheet (N) of fibers or filaments, the sheet is brought into contact with a perforated cylinder (2), equipped with at least one insert (8). Each insert includes, at one end, a plane surface (S), and is provided with a recess (8b) which emerges in the plane surface (S) and which has a sharp edge (8g) formed by the intersection of the inner surface (8f) of the recess (8b) with the plane surface (S). A perforation in the non-woven sheet (N) is obtained by cutting out a portion (P) of the non-woven sheet (N) by shearing of the fibers or filaments of the non-woven sheet (N), between the sharp edge (8g) of the insert (8) and a perforating member (9) driven simultaneously in translation and rotation about its own axis.